

**DRAFT MINUTES
STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**

NEVADA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION MINUTES

Topic: CPE November Commission Meeting

Time: February 1, 2023, 09:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

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Staff Present during Video Conference

Maricris Wu, CPE Postsecondary Education Specialist
Susan Beckett, CPE Administrative Assistant III

Members of the Public, Media, Educational Institutions and Other Agencies Present

Greg D. Ott, Nevada Attorney General Office, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Jerame Ayers, Academy of Professional Development
Kayla Babbitt, Assist to Succeed Northern Nevada
Jen Bocchi, Assist to Succeed Northern Nevada
Annie Burke-Doe, Hawaii Pacific University
Tricia Catalino, Hawaii Pacific University
Paula Dixon, Shiloh CNA School
Ylonne Hodges, PDH Academy
Dave Kostecki
Leonard Lafrance, NCLab
Angie LeBlanc, Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy
Marleny
Peter Mikhail, Advanced Training Institute
Charles Olander
Robyn Otty, Hawaii Pacific University
Pavel Solin, NCLab
Jasminemarie Soller, Advanced Training Institute

Member of the Commission on Postsecondary Education Present during Video Conference Meeting

Sharon Frederick, Vice Chair
Vincent Eade
Thomas Kenny
Jon Ponder
Steven Soares

STATE OF NEVADA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION
MINUTES

February 1, 2023 – 9:00 A.M.

Call to Order

The meeting was held via Video Conference ZOOM. The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Commissioner Sharon Frederick at approximately 9:02AM.

Public Comments

Commissioner Frederick asked for public comment – none.

Written Comments

This is Susan Beckett, no written comments.

Confirmation of Posting

Susan Beckett, for the record, Administrative Assistant III, Commission on Postsecondary Education. We are in compliance; we have posted according to open meeting laws.

Roll Call

- Commissioner Chair Clark - Excused
- Commissioner Vice-Chair Frederick - Present
- Commissioner Eade - Present
- Commissioner Kenny - Present
- Commissioner Ponder - Present
- Commissioner Rhodes - Excused
- Commissioner Clyne - Excused
- Commissioner Soares – Present

Administrative Assistant Susan Beckett: took roll via verbal and video. Confirmation of a quorum.

Adoption of Agenda:

Motion: Commissioner Soares – Move to approve adoption of Agenda for February 1, 2023.

Second: Commissioner Eade.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, agenda is adopted.

Approval of Minutes November 2, 2022, Meeting

Discussion: Commissioner Frederick noted under Genevieve Training Center the minutes stated Compass Rehab and it should be Encompass Rehab.

Motion: Commissioner Soares – Motion to approve the minutes for November 2, 2022, meeting with changes.

Second: Commissioner Eade.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Administrators Report

Administrative Assistant Susan Beckett explained Administrator Kelly Wuest was called into the DETR's presentation before the money committees' pre-session at the Grant Sawyer Building in Las Vegas. Ms. Wuest will be attending this commission meeting once she is released from the other meeting. Beckett furthered with the updated changes to the Administrators Report (as submitted in the Public Packet Posting):

Item 5 Application Backlog:

- Incomplete/partial application – CPE has found that the CPE portal has rejected some documents that includes a hyphen “-“(Update to underscore “_”) in the document name. To improve submission, Susan is now providing a confirmation email that lists all documents received.

Item 7 Quarterly Report – With 43 (update 37) schools unreported, the total enrollment for the October 1, 2022– December 31, 2022, quarter stands at 6,176 (update 6370) new students.

Correction for move to take place February 2023 not February 2022.

Applications for Full Term License

Academy of Professional Development

Testified: Jerame Ayers gave information and background about the school. Mr. Ayers stated the EMT program is getting approved very soon. He is a disabled service-connected veteran owned school and has two security programs. His desire is to eventually get approved for the VA education benefits programs in Nevada. Currently, my first school is headquartered in California with a full postsecondary approval there. The EMT program is an adventure as it relates to medical, and it is taking time to get the EMT program approved at the national level, then the State level, and then the local level with the Clark County, Southern Nevada Health District. Ayers held up, during the meeting, a document and stated it was a clinical agreement form. Ayers explained when you run an EMT program you have to have x number of hours in the classroom and hands on skills and training, then you must attend a 24 internship, 24 hours on an ambulance company or within the ER of a hospital. The provisional license of 9 months that I have been on, and I finally got this last week. In order for a hospital to take students it has to go through legal proceedings – we finally got the agreement for our students to do their clinical internships. It has just taken me awhile to get all of this for the EMT.

Now for my security programs, I know we want to get an audit of the school and things like that but, I have had 0 enrollments for my security programs in Nevada. It's short about last year 6/7 months to me from visiting Vegas and I talked to quite a bit of employers out there, and the opportunity for those positions, were just

devasted from Covid and they are still that way. Whenever I come out, I visit sites such as the large casinos and they blocked off part of the casino just because they either don't have the staff or the visiting tourists, so there's not a big draw to push students in the Executive Protection field, but that's changing. I am actually going to be training with larger security companies' employees out there. I've already starting to get enrollment agreements for that. We are pushing forward. We are ready to get going.

Commissioner Eade - Where are you with the Southern Nevada Health District Approval for the EMT? Ayers, I am at the point where I have had to get this clinical agreement and I sent it over to them and they are like, obviously great, because you have all this, all these lists that want you to provide when they do their first inspection, and you have to have a clinical agreement or else it's the cart before the horse. Now that I have a clinical agreement finally, all I got to do is add my instructors to the role which I've already prepped that for the last five months and getting those instructor signoffs that they specifically want on specialized training to instruct EMT's. I am hoping probably within the next 90 days that we will have our first inspection and then we will start intaking students.

Commissioner Soares, I have a clarification question for you, Physical security specialist rather than physically. Ayers, yes, it is physical security specialist.

Commissioner Frederick, I also have a quick question. Are you actively going to recruit veterans for the program? Ayers, yes and I want to say that's a double-edged sword cause. Obviously, I'd love to do that 100% and help as many of my fellow brothers and sisters as possible, but it's open to the public. In California I am a VA approved school. So, I'm getting vet intake and wanting to do the program, but by that choice they want to come to California because I'm already GI Bill® approved to do the program, and then some of our filed training, because in California the gun laws, because they do have to qualify with weapons concealed, weapon carry and all of this to do their job. So, I have to drive and motorcade with my students that enrolled in California and visit Las Vegas to use the ranges. So, once we get going and pass the VA requirements of time on intake and teaching vets, we can finally get the VA approval out in Nevada to better serve the best that are locally here. Right now, it's kind of odd you are open and okay to take in one state which can't really do it here. Then you have the pass that are, they'll drive to California.

- Motion: Commissioner Soares – A motion that the provisional license for Academy of Professional Development be extended for an additional nine months with the requirement that the institution begin instruction no later than 6 months from the date of this meeting.
- Second: Commissioner Eade.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Assist to Succeed Northern Nevada

Testified: Jennifer Bocci, Nevada Executive Director and Office Manager, Kayla Babbitt, explained the school is a comprehensive dental assistant school that is a ten-week program with 80 hours total. We have had 21 students. Actually, we were able, as per a request from one the Commissioners in our provisional stage, we were asked to sponsor a student, and we actually ended up sponsoring four students. One of the students was from Agency Step 2 which basically helps women who are in either bad or environments of drug abuse or have a history of drug abuse and they are getting back on their feet. She is actually working with our dental office right now. We hopefully will be able to sponsor one every year going forward.

Commissioner Frederick, that is great community outreach. I commend you for that.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny – A motion that full-term licensure be granted for Assist to Succeed Northern Nevada.

Second: Commissioner Soares.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

PDH Academy

Testified: Y'Lonne Hodges, Distance Education Program Manager – We have a real estate instructional inspection program. Currently, the real estate program does not have any students we are currently in the process of updating the curriculum to meet the 120-hour standard that is now required.

Commissioner Soares – I understand that the Real Estate had to change to 120 hours, do you have students enrolled? Hodges, the structural inspection does have 11 students not the real estate.

Commissioner Kenny – Our school was looking into a real estate program, and I know that we had some challenges with the 30 additional hours and trying to work our way through that process. You are not the only one who had some challenges associated with that. Keep up the fight.

Motion: Commissioner Eade – A motion that the extended provisional license for PDH Academy be extended for an additional six months.

Second: Commissioner Ponder.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Applications for Initial Provisional Licensure

Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy

Testified: Angie LeBlanc, Licensing Coordinator and Dr. Jarrad Bencaz, Owner gave a history of the program since the onset nationwide that began in 2015. They

currently have 72 dental assisting schools in 17 states. Dr. Champagne in the City of Sparks, Nevada has a great reputation in the dental industry with a 9,000 square foot dental office. Our business model is we partner with practicing dental offices by leasing their space and equipment during their nonoperational hours. Usually it's Saturdays, 8 to 5 for ten-week semesters, and we hold three semesters a year. We host a lecture and hands on clinical training for dental assisting. Financially, Accelerated operates out of a corporate account, one corporate account. So, it helps cover fledgling schools with seasoned profitable ones, instead of having set accounts for each individual 72 schools. That would be a nightmare. Each semester has a cap of 15 students, so the teacher student ratio is beneficial. We offer the curriculum through our learning management system canvas. It allows our corporate office, as well as our instructors and students to have real time access throughout the course and beyond to curriculum modules, announcements, homework, progress, reports, educational resources, transcripts and the student have access to that account even after they graduate. Our curriculum is 80 hours, 36 hours of lecture, 44 hours of hands-on training. We implement the same curriculum with State specific modifications nationwide. Simultaneously our instructors are practicing dental assistance with 2 years or more experience and recommendations from past and current employers. You may have recognized our name from before because we actually came here a year ago and we were granted approval with contingencies of the typical stuff, faculty and business license. But the Sparks business license took much longer than we anticipated. So, we are here again, just starting fresh.

Commissioner Soares asked about the advertising on social media. Ms. LeBlanc replied with they have a marketing specialist that is fantastic with Google and getting our school to be first on the search engine and then of course we will be doing Facebook ads with directing people to our website and such. Soares, say there is a large number of dropouts. What steps would you take to ensure students complete your program. LeBlanc answered, first of all we feel that we are very personable because we limit the class size. So, once we have optimum enrollment, or even if we don't, we really try to keep nurturing those students. We have instructors that will reach out to student and then of course our dean and communication managers which are part of our administration team. We would work to find out what is the real issue. Then we would try to help them overcome those.

Commissioner Ponder- You said you limited the class sizes. What is that magic number that you are trying to maintain? LeBlanc – we do maximum of 15 students per semester. So, we don't really ever have more than 45 students a year go through the course in one particular location, and we do that so that even though Dr. Champagne, of instance, has 20 something operator size we not going to use all 20 operatories, but we do stage it so it helps when they go to do their hands on training.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny - A motion that a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Accelerated Dental Assisting Academy to offer the Dental Assisting Certificate program contingent upon receipt of a surety bond in the amount of \$14,500, personnel information, and facility approval.

Second: Commissioner Soares.

Discussion: None.

Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Hawai'i Pacific University

Testified: Tricia Catalino, Campus Director; Robyn Otty and Annie Burke-Doe, gave information about the institution and the programs. We are a 4-year institution with undergraduate and graduate courses. We offer bachelor's degrees, Master's degrees and entry level doctoral degrees. We are looking to start programs in Las Vegas in occupational therapy and physical therapy program, we launched at the Hawaii campus in July with approximately 100 students. The programs in Las Vegas will model what we are doing in Honolulu with these health sciences, programs, and all of these align with our strategic plan to increase graduate education at the institution in market ready degree programs in the health sciences.

Commissioner Eade – Why Las Vegas? Catalino, that is a great question. There are lots of ties between, as you may know, between Hawaii and Las Vegas, and there's a large population of individuals who have moved to Las Vegas from Hawaii. There's brand recognition in Las Vegas because we have many alumni from Honolulu who live in the Las Vegas area. In fact, I've attended those events myself, because I live in Las Vegas and work remotely for the University of Hawaii. There is also a big need not only in Las Vegas and Nevada, but across the Western US for these individuals in these professions.

Commissioner Soares – where are you planning to locate the campus. Robyn Otty is working with a realtor looking for a location near the airport. Space would be south of the airport since we anticipate the students having the convenience of being close to the airport and plus close to nearby attractions, that they may need. Of course, they will be living here for those lab immersions. So, there's plenty of options in the area to live temporarily.

Commissioner Soares – when you looked at statistics and marketing for the physical therapy and occupational therapy what kinds of numbers did you come up with and then it doesn't have to be a specific product you know? Annie Burke answered 17% increase in the need. Hoping to fill the need in the community as well. Tricia had 800 applications for 100 spots and 400 of those application were qualified candidates, so it's a robust application pool. We are not worried about the student base.

Commissioner Ponder – how long have you been in business and what is the entry level salary? Catalino stated Hawaii Pacific University was founded in 1965 and the range depends on the region of the country. Here in Nevada entry level salaries will range from around 70-\$90,000 for physical therapy same range as physical therapist and occupational therapy.

- Motion: Commissioner Soares - That a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Hawai'i Pacific University to offer the Doctor of Physical Therapy and Doctor of Occupational Therapy degrees contingent on accreditation approval, personnel, facility approval and surety in the amount of \$1,347,000.
- Second: Commissioner Ponder.
- Discussion: None.
- Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

NCLab

Testified: Leonard Lafrance, President and CEO and Dr. Pavel Solin, Founder gave background information about the school and their work with community colleges and that they are currently working with UNR.

Commissioner Eade what type of salary can a graduate typically receive? Lafrance, usually \$80,000 is about the beginning position in python, which is what we are applying for here. It's closer to a \$100,000 when you make people job ready.

Commissioner Ponder, can you tell me about the training that you offer the different types of training. Lafrance stated there are the types. One is becoming a data analyst, a profession; another is becoming a python programmer, again a profession. LaFrance further explained his startup company and the history and other programs they offer.

Commissioner Kenny, I'm not sure who my question is directed to. It might be to staff more than it is to Mr. Lafrance. The documentation that I have in front of me only reflects one program being up for consideration, but I have now heard three programs mentioned and so I did want to see some clarity, both I guess from the institution and from staff. Are we acting on just one program today under consideration? Lafrance, the decision was made that we wanted to try to limit the complications. We want to make it as simple and straightforward as possible. We could have applied for all our programs, but what we wanted to do was get one of our programs into the ETPL so that we are able to then go to the states and say we have ETPL in Nevada. Commissioner Kenny, and again maybe for staff. So, we can license an institution for portions of programs like, for the one program and have the other programs remain unlicensed, is that correct? Maricris Wu, based on the information that's provided here by the administrator. We do only have one program the institution is seeking for the Python developer program. Right now, that is the only one up for consideration and approval. Later, when you receive the

full-term licensure, you could then add on the additional program later when they have the full-term licensure status. Commissioner Kenny, I just didn't realize that we could license only one, only a portion of an institution's offerings, because that is outside of my historical experience, seeing a license only of one three programs offered by an institution typically I was under the impression everything had to be included in the license. That is why I was clarifying. Wu replied understood. It is up to the institution how many programs they plan to offer in the initial application process. Based on the information we have in front of us today. Administrator Wuest did provide information here for only program that they are seeking for approval and later they could certainly apply for additional programs that they plan to offer in the State of Nevada. Lafrance added, that we are offering the other programs in Nevada, but we are offering them through the colleges and the University. So, it is not that those programs are not offered. We are just not asking to offer them directly. Commissioner Kenny, so you are not the provider of the program. You are the prime writer of the curriculum or the everything else, but it's delivered by another institution. Okay that is making more sense because I was just unsure. Then you guys are not directly providing the instruction for those two other programs, that makes more sense to me.

Commissioner Kenny, I do have an additional question here that based on some of the information on the financials, submitted. It showed that the business had been operating at a loss in the reviewed financial period and wanted to get some insight into that in terms of what the businesses strategic plan shows related to future estimates, from when they are going to reach you and when are you going to reach profitability. Lafrance, replied we are a C Corp and are funded in part by the Sierra Angeles, which is an angel group in Tahoe. I personally play a major role in funding the company. Our strategy is to do what we did in Nevada in other states, and it takes time to become profitable. We expect that to be in the next year, but we are very sufficiently funded to get from here to there.

Commissioner Ponder, so for the 160-hour certification what is the cost to train? Lafrance, the python is 300 to 400 hours, and it costs \$5,600. Pavel Solin gave additional background about the program and the instruction for the program.

Commissioner Soares, what is your pass rate in the program? Solin stated the program is new and formally no one was gone through it.

Commissioner Ponder – would you ever consider bringing your training into the State's prison system. Lafrance, yes, in fact, we have visited that. It would just be tremendously powerful. There are a lot of complications because everything we do is in the cloud and the prisons are very, very hesitant about letting prisoners get access to the outside world and so it makes it very difficult.

Susan Beckett stated there is no contingency for personnel it has been satisfied. Commissioner Eade, is there a bond requirement? Susan Beckett, they provided the bond, there is no bond requirement it was received January 23, 2023.

- Motion: Commissioner Ponder - That a twelve-month provisional license be granted to NCLab to offer the Python Developer program.
Second: Commissioner Soares.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Shiloh CNA School

Testified: Paula Dixon, RN, Owner – Ms Dixon provided a background of the institution and plans for their program as a CNA with a pathway to become a RN.

Commissioner Soares – how are you recruiting students now, and if I hear correctly, they can use this as a prerequisite for an RN program? Dixon, yes for some of the students they would be interested, and they can go through the program as a prerequisite, so we can provide that education. As far as the advertising, I have not done any yet. I was an instructor prior to opening my own school and so some of the connections that I have will be with our goodwill I have also worked with some of the hiring agencies. They now know that I am opening my school and they are just waiting for me to give them the okay.

Commissioner Soares – experience in managing an institution? Dixon, I have been an active instructor, but not have had my own school. This is the first time for me as an owner. The clinical facility that I work with most would be Henderson hospital and primarily I would take the students to their clinicals and at the end of the clinicals they are basically hired. Every one of my students was interested in going there. I also work with Harmon Hospital.

- Motion: Commissioner Kenny - A motion that a twelve-month provisional license be granted to Shiloh CNA to offer a Nursing Assistant certificate program contingent upon receipt of a surety bond in the amount of \$13,000, facility and personnel information.
Second: Commissioner Eade.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Applicants for consideration of Added Program

Advanced Training Institute

Testified: Peter Mikhail, Sal Younis, Jasminemarie Soller – Peter Mikhail gave background on the program since they are already licensed.

Commissioner Eade, I wonder what the demand is for this new program. Mikhail replied, and they gave background with license by means of accreditation. The ten-year forecast of how many massage therapists is practicing now and how many will be in demand. There is a 7-10% increase so the demand is there.

Commissioner Soares asked about the clinicals and how it was stated that a lot of personal trainers might take this course to get the additional skill set and work for themselves and if they would be able to keep some data on that. Ms. Soller answered the question pertaining to clinicals and gave further information as their accrediting body requires the data on that.

Motion: Commissioner Soares – A motion that Advanced Training Institute be granted approval to offer the proposed Massage Therapy/Reflexology program contingent on curriculum approval, facility review and bond in the amount of \$104,500.
Second: Commissioner Ponder.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries.

Public Comment

None.

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Frederick. Time: 10:28 a.m.

Motion: Commissioner Kenny, I'll make a motion to adjourn.
Second: Commissioner Ponder.
Discussion: None.
Results: Unanimous, motion carries